



08/09
News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center Proudly Announces The
***M&I BANK BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA –
FOX CITIES 2008/09 SEASON***

**Highlights Include The Wisconsin Premiere of
Broadway's Blockbuster *Wicked***

Appleton, WI (April 20, 2008) – The very best of touring Broadway makes its way to the [Fox Cities Performing Arts Center](#) during the 2008/09 season. Broadway's biggest blockbuster *Wicked* highlights the M&I Bank Broadway Across America – Fox Cities series, which also includes some of Broadway's hottest titles as well as beloved favorites.

"The upcoming season is an exciting mix of classics like *Grease* and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and cutting-edge Broadway shows like the compelling drama *Frost/Nixon* and the daring *Avenue Q*," remarked Susan Stockton, president of the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. "Of course we are thrilled to present the statewide premiere of *Wicked*, which will be at the P.A.C. for four spectacular weeks. I encourage people to become Season Ticket Holders if they aren't already so they can secure their seats for *Wicked*, as tickets are sure to go fast."

Kicking off the Broadway season is the Tony®-nominated play *Frost/Nixon*, starring legendary stage and screen actor Stacy Keach. Then *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, the musical sensation about a magical car will fly, er, drive into town. *Wicked* then casts the spellbinding story of how two women became the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch. Next up is the clever and risqué Tony Award®-winning musical *Avenue Q*. Finally, take a trip back in time to poodle skirts and T-birds and sing along to the songs you know and love in the classic *Grease*.

SEASON TICKET HOLDER BENEFITS

Becoming a Season Ticket Holder is the best way for individuals to guarantee seats to the season's hottest shows, especially this season's blockbuster *Wicked*. In addition, Season Ticket Holders enjoy the benefits of Broadway Across America, a national network of 42 cities where touring Broadway is presented. Benefits include:

- Guaranteed seat locations
- Ticket exchange and replacement services
- Access to priority and additional ticket offers
- Traveling benefits — Season Ticket Holders can exchange tickets for Broadway shows presented in other Broadway Across America presenting cities

Current Season Ticket Holders are urged to respond to renewal notices as soon as possible and secure their seats for the upcoming season. The renewal deadline is Friday, May 23, 2008.

SEASON INFORMATION

Five-show season packages will go on sale to the general public Sunday, April 20. Season ticket prices range from \$169-\$407 depending on performance date, time and seating preference. All prices include applicable season ticket discounts, facility and handling fees and applicable sales tax. Season ticket information is available at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center ticket office or through the M&I Bank Broadway Across America – Fox Cities customer service hotline Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. CT at (800) 216-7469. Online service is available 24 hours a day at BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com. All performances will be held at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, 400 West College Avenue in downtown Appleton. Please visit foxcitiespac.com for additional information.

Groups (minimums apply) can order tickets to individual shows beginning Sunday, April 20 by going to foxcitiespac.com. For questions, call (920) 730-3786 starting Monday, April 21.

Tickets for individual productions typically go on sale to the general public at least four to six weeks prior to the first performance.

2008/09 SEASON DETAILS (in chronological order)

Frost/Nixon

October 7-12, 2008

Frost/Nixon tackles the question: How did David Frost, a famous British talk-show host with a playboy reputation, elicit the apology that the rest of the world was waiting to hear from former President Richard Nixon? Award-winning stage and screen actor Stacy Keach stars as Richard Nixon in this fast-paced Tony Award®-nominated new play which shows the determination, conviction and cunning of two men as they square off in one of the most monumental television interviews of all time. *Frost/Nixon* is written by Peter Morgan, writer of *The Queen*, *The Last King of Scotland* and HBO's "Longford," and directed by Olivier Award winner Michael Grandage.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

December 17-21, 2008

You'll believe a car can fly! *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* is everything you could want in a musical – and more. Sensational sets, stunning special effects, an irresistible story and an unforgettable Sherman Brothers score, including memorable classics like "Truly Scrumptious" "Hushabye Mountain" and of course, the Oscar-nominated title song, all add up to a Broadway blockbuster the whole family will love. *Scheduling dynamics of this musical provide an opportunity to present a special midweek matinee for families and children to enjoy on Thursday, December 18, instead of the performance usually held on Tuesday evening.*

Wicked

February 4-28, 2009

Season Ticket Holder performances: February 10-15

Long before that girl from Kansas arrives in Munchkinland, two girls meet in the land of Oz. One – born with emerald green skin – is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. How these two grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch makes for "the most completely satisfying new musical in a long time" (USA Today).

On Broadway and around the world, *Wicked* has worked its magic on critics and audiences alike. Winner of 20 major awards, including a Grammy and three Tony Awards®, *Wicked* is "Broadway's biggest blockbuster" (The New York Times).

Avenue Q

May 5-10, 2009

Avenue Q is Broadway's smash-hit 2004 Tony Award® winner for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book. A hilarious show full of heart and hummable tunes, *Avenue Q* is about trying to make it in NYC with big dreams and a tiny bank account. Called "one of the funniest shows you're ever likely to see" by Entertainment Weekly, *Avenue Q* features a cast of people and puppets who tell the story in a smart, risqué and downright entertaining way. The New Yorker calls it "SUBVERSIVE and UPROARIOUS!" *Recommended for ages 16 and up. Avenue Q has not been authorized or approved by The Jim Henson Company or Sesame Workshop, which have no responsibility for its content.*

Grease

June 2-7, 2009

Time Magazine's 2007 pick for "#1 musical of the year" is rockin' across the country in this new production direct from Broadway. Take a trip to a simpler time of poodle skirts, drive-ins and T-birds. "Bad boy" Danny and "the girl next door" Sandy fall in love all over again to the tune of your favorite songs: "Summer Nights," "Greased Lightnin'" and "We Go Together" as well as additional songs from the hit movie: "Grease," "Hopelessly Devoted to You" and "You're the One That I Want."

Local community partners of the 2008/09 M&I Bank Broadway Across America – Fox Cities season include: Appleton Papers Inc. and Miron Construction Co., Inc. for *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*; Kimberly-Clark Corporation for *Avenue Q*; and Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company for *Grease*.

ABOUT M&I BANK BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA – FOX CITIES

M&I Bank Broadway Across America – Fox Cities, exclusively at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, is presented in partnership with Broadway Across America. The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, located in downtown Appleton, Wisconsin, is a gathering place for the community and a state-of-the-art venue where the arts come alive. Additional information is available at foxcitiespac.com.

ABOUT BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA

Owned and operated by British theatre producer John Gore (CEO) and led by Thomas B. McGrath (Chairman), Broadway Across America presents first-class touring Broadway musicals and plays, family productions and other live events throughout a network of 42 North American cities. Broadway Across America is also dedicated to the development and production of new and diverse live theatre for productions on Broadway, across America and throughout the world. Current productions include *A Catered Affair*, *Passing Strange*, *Spamalot*, *Go Diego Go* and *The Backyardigans*. For more information or to purchase tickets through an authorized agent go to BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com.

ABOUT M&I BANK

M&I Marshall & Ilsley Bank is an affiliate of Marshall & Ilsley Corporation (NYSE: MI), a diversified financial services corporation headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis., with \$59.8 billion in assets. Founded in 1847, M&I Marshall & Ilsley Bank is the largest Wisconsin-based bank, with 193 offices throughout the state. In addition, M&I has 50 locations throughout Arizona; 32 offices in central Indiana; 31 offices along Florida's west coast and in central Florida; 14 offices in Kansas City and nearby communities; 23 offices in metropolitan Minneapolis/St. Paul, and one in Duluth, Minn.; and one office in Las Vegas, Nev. M&I's Southwest Bank subsidiary has 17 offices in the greater St. Louis area. M&I also provides trust and investment management, equipment leasing, mortgage banking, asset-based lending, financial planning, investments, and insurance services from offices throughout the country and on the Internet (mibank.com or micorp.com). M&I's customer-based approach, internal growth, and strategic acquisitions have made M&I a nationally recognized leader in the financial services industry.

[Fox Cities Performing Arts Center](http://foxcitiespac.com)

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